

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A triple effect absorption refrigerating machine comprising:
a high temperature regenerator;
an intermediate temperature regenerator;
a low temperature regenerator;
a condenser;
an absorber;
an evaporator;
an auxiliary regenerator;
an auxiliary absorber; and
a path for interconnecting these devices,
said triple effect absorption refrigerating machine ~~characterized in~~ further comprising:
a high concentration circulation path for circulating a solution among said absorber, said auxiliary regenerator, said intermediate temperature regenerator and said high temperature regenerator; and
a low concentration circulation path for circulating a solution between said auxiliary absorber and said low temperature regenerator,
wherein said triple effect absorption refrigerating machine further comprises:
a path for guiding a refrigerant vapor generated in said auxiliary regenerator to said auxiliary absorber;
a path for guiding a refrigerant vapor generated in said intermediate temperature regenerator to said low temperature regenerator and said auxiliary regenerator in the heating sections thereof; and

a path for guiding a refrigerant vapor generated in said high temperature regenerator to said intermediate temperature regenerator in the heating section thereof.

2. (Original) A triple effect absorption refrigerating machine in accordance with claim 1, further comprising a means for suspending or activating a function(s) of said auxiliary regenerator and/or said auxiliary absorber.

3. (Currently Amended) A triple effect absorption refrigerating machine comprising:
a high temperature regenerator;
an intermediate temperature regenerator;
a low temperature regenerator;
a condenser;
an absorber;
an evaporator;
an auxiliary regenerator;
an auxiliary absorber; and
a path for interconnecting these devices,

said triple effect absorption refrigerating machine ~~characterized in~~ further comprising:

a path serving both for guiding a part of a dilute solution from said absorber to said auxiliary absorber and for guiding a dilute solution from said auxiliary absorber to said low temperature regenerator;

a path for returning a solution in said low temperature regenerator to said absorber via said auxiliary regenerator; and

a path for guiding a refrigerant vapor generated in said auxiliary regenerator to said auxiliary absorber,

wherein said triple effect absorption refrigerating machine further comprises:

a path for guiding a refrigerant vapor generated in said intermediate temperature regenerator to said low temperature regenerator and said auxiliary regenerator in heating sections thereof; and

a path for guiding a refrigerant vapor generated in said high temperature regenerator to said intermediate temperature regenerator in a heating section thereof.

4. (Original) A triple effect absorption refrigerating machine in accordance with claim 3, further comprising a means for suspending or activating a function(s) of said auxiliary regenerator and/or said auxiliary absorber.

5. (Currently Amended) A triple effect absorption refrigerating machine comprising:
a high temperature regenerator;
an intermediate temperature-regenerator;
a low temperature regenerator;
a condenser;
an absorber;
an evaporator;
an auxiliary regenerator;
an auxiliary absorber; and
a path for interconnecting these devices,
said triple effect absorption refrigerating machine ~~characterized in~~ further comprising
a means for switching cycles among:

(a) a cycle having: a high concentration circulation path for circulating a solution among said absorber, said auxiliary regenerator, said intermediate temperature regenerator and said high temperature regenerator; and a low concentration circulation path for circulating a solution between said auxiliary absorber and said low temperature regenerator, wherein said cycle forms: a path for guiding a refrigerant vapor generated in said auxiliary regenerator to said auxiliary absorber; a path for guiding a refrigerant vapor generated in said intermediate temperature regenerator to said low temperature regenerator and said auxiliary regenerator in heating sections thereof; and a path for guiding a refrigerant vapor generated in said high temperature regenerator to said intermediate temperature regenerator in a heating section thereof;

(b) a cycle having: a path serving both for guiding a part of a dilute solution from said absorber to said auxiliary absorber and for guiding a dilute solution from said auxiliary absorber to said low temperature regenerator; a path for returning a solution in said low temperature regenerator to said absorber via said auxiliary regenerator; and a path for guiding a refrigerant vapor generated in said auxiliary regenerator to said auxiliary absorber, wherein said cycle forms: a path for guiding a refrigerant vapor generated in said intermediate temperature regenerator to said low temperature regenerator and said auxiliary regenerator in the heating sections thereof; and a path for guiding a refrigerant vapor generated in said high temperature regenerator to said intermediate temperature regenerator in the heating section thereof; and

(c) a cycle for suspending a function(s) of said auxiliary regenerator and/or said auxiliary absorber in either one of said (a) or (b) cycle, said triple effect

absorption refrigerating machine further comprising a means for switching cycles among said cycles (a), (b) and (c).

6. (Original) A triple effect absorption refrigerating machine in accordance with either one of claim 1, 3 or 5, in which said auxiliary regenerator comprises an adjusting mechanism for increasing/decreasing a heat-concentration power.

7. (Original) A triple effect absorption refrigerating machine in accordance with either one of claim 1, 3 or 5, in which said auxiliary absorber comprises an adjusting mechanism for increasing/decreasing an absorption power.

8. (Original) A triple effect absorption refrigerating machine in accordance with either one of claim 1, 3 or 5, in which said auxiliary regenerator comprises an adjusting mechanism for increasing/decreasing a heat-concentration power and said auxiliary absorber comprises an adjusting mechanism for increasing/decreasing an absorption power.

9. (Currently Amended) A triple effect absorption refrigerating machine in accordance with either one of claim 1, 3 or 5 ~~to 8~~, further comprising a path having a vapor valve for guiding a refrigerant vapor generated in said high temperature regenerator and/or said intermediate regenerator to a regenerator having a one-step lower pressure level.

10. (Currently Amended) A triple effect absorption refrigerating machine in accordance with either one of claim 1, 2 or 5 ~~1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8 or 9~~, further comprising a path for introducing the solution in said high concentration circulation path into said low concentration circulation path, and for returning the solution in said low concentration

circulation path to said high concentration circulation path to make a balanced circulation with respect to said introduction of the solution.

11. (Currently Amended) A triple effect absorption refrigerating machine in accordance with claim 5 ~~either one of claim 5, 6, 8 or 9~~, in which said means for switching cycles, said adjusting mechanism for increasing/decreasing a heat-concentration power or said vapor valve is provided with a control mechanism for adjusting an internal pressure and/or a solution temperature of said high temperature regenerator or physical quantities relating thereto so as not to exceed respective predetermined values.

12. (Currently Amended) A triple effect absorption refrigerating machine comprising:

- a high temperature regenerator;
- an intermediate temperature regenerator;
- a low temperature regenerator;
- a condenser;
- an absorber;
- an evaporator;
- an auxiliary regenerator;
- an auxiliary absorber; and
- a path for interconnecting these devices,

said triple effect absorption refrigerating machine ~~characterized in~~ further comprising:

- a high concentration circulation path for circulating a solution among said absorber, said auxiliary regenerator, said intermediate temperature regenerator and said high temperature regenerator; and

a low concentration circulation path for circulating a solution between said auxiliary absorber and said low temperature regenerator,

wherein said triple effect absorption refrigerating machine still further comprises:

a path for guiding a refrigerant vapor generated in said auxiliary regenerator to said auxiliary absorber; a path for guiding a refrigerant vapor generated in said intermediate temperature regenerator to said low temperature regenerator and/or said auxiliary regenerator in heating section(s) thereof; and a path for guiding a refrigerant vapor generated in said high temperature regenerator to said intermediate temperature regenerator in a heating section thereof,

wherein said low temperature regenerator and/or said auxiliary regenerator are provided with a heat-transfer pipe for receiving an exhaust heat from an external source to heat the solution.

13. (Original) A triple effect absorption refrigerating machine in accordance with claim 1, in which said intermediate temperature regenerator is provided with a heat-transfer pipe for receiving an exhaust heat from an external source to heat the solution.

14. (Original) A triple effect absorption refrigerating machine in accordance with claim 12 or 13, in which said low temperature regenerator and/or said auxiliary regenerator are provided with a heat-transfer pipe for receiving an exhaust heat from an external source to heat the solution, said exhaust heat being embodied by a fluid of sensible heat, wherein said fluid is guided to said low temperature regenerator and then to said auxiliary regenerator.

15. (Original) A triple effect absorption refrigerating machine in accordance with claim 12 or 13, in which said intermediate temperature is provided with a heat-transfer pipe

for receiving an exhaust heat from an external source to heat the solution, said exhaust heat being embodied by a fluid of sensible heat, wherein said fluid is guided to said intermediate temperature regenerator and then to said low temperature regenerator and/or said auxiliary regenerator.

16. (Currently Amended) A triple effect absorption refrigerating machine comprising:

a high temperature regenerator;

an intermediate temperature regenerator;

a low temperature regenerator;

a condenser; an absorber;

an evaporator;

an auxiliary regenerator;

an auxiliary absorber; and

a path for interconnecting these devices,

said triple effect absorption refrigerating machine ~~characterized in~~ further comprising:

a high concentration circulation path for circulating a solution among said absorber, said auxiliary regenerator, said intermediate temperature regenerator and said high temperature regenerator; and

a low concentration circulation path for circulating a solution between said auxiliary absorber and said low temperature regenerator,

wherein said triple effect absorption refrigerating machine still further comprises:

a path for guiding a refrigerant vapor generated in said auxiliary regenerator to said auxiliary absorber;

a path for guiding a refrigerant vapor generated in said intermediate temperature regenerator to said low temperature regenerator and said auxiliary regenerator in heating sections thereof; and

a path for guiding a refrigerant vapor generated in said high temperature regenerator to said intermediate temperature regenerator in a heating section thereof, wherein said intermediate temperature regenerator is provided with a heat-transfer pipe for receiving an exhaust heat from an external source to heat the solution.